

PROJECT TITLE : PROTAGORAS  
PERIOD COVERED : MARCH 12 - APRIL 16, 1981  
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The purpose of Project Protagoras is to produce a tobacco with the least amount of proteins possible. In order to accomplish this, it is first necessary to divide the procedure up into stages and to obtain the maximum information about each extraction step. For this reason ØS-B-101 tobacco was first extracted at pH 5,25 and was then re-extracted at pH 12,0. The change in pH from 5,25 to 12,0 gave a 50% greater yield of "proteins" than re-extraction of the same tobacco with water. With this two-step extraction, it was possible to solubilize at least 45% of the initial tobacco "proteins" in the liquid phase of the extraction.

Tobacco extracted by this method may additionally be treated with enzymes. Preliminary results indicate that the enzyme treatment releases some more proteins, that have not been washed out previously.

In addition, we began to cultivate some proteolytic microbiological strains and some preliminary observations were made about growth conditions and proteolytic enzyme production.

#### REFERENCES

- (1) Notebook - Mangilli M.-F., No. 80.08.05 pp. 15-18.
- (2) Notebook - Bindler G.-N. 1.

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